7.0 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT, REVIEW, AND CONSULTATION

7.1 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM

The USACE and Port Freeport involved the public through public meetings, and other outreach throughout the history of this project. A proactive approach was taken to inform and involve the public, resource agencies, industry, local government, and other interested parties about the project and to identify any public concerns.

On November 29, 2005, a public scoping meeting was held at the Freeport Community House, Freeport, Texas. The purpose of he meeting was to introduce the proposed project to the public, explain the NEPA process, and solicit public comment regarding the project. The meeting included an open house prior to the formal meeting, which included a presentation from USACE, the Port, and PBS&J. Oral and written comments were collected at the meeting and written comments were collected throughout the scoping comment period, which ended December 29, 2005. Other various forms of outreach utilized during this project included early regulatory agency coordination, DMMP Workgroup meetings, individual contacts, press releases, and comment forms.

7.2 REQUIRED COORDINATION

The Draft EIS is being circulated to all known Federal, State, and local agencies. Interested organizations and individuals are also being sent an electronic copy.

7.3 STATEMENT RECIPIENTS

Section 9.0 of this DEIS provides a list that includes those who are being sent a copy of this document, along with a request to review and provide comments on the documents.

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